



Region 7

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Fact Sheet

July 2012

Update on Activities Supporting the Record of Decision (ROD) Amendment for the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site Bridgeton, Missouri

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 has been working in the Bridgeton community to address environmental issues at the West Lake Landfill over a multi-year period. The West Lake Landfill is comprised of two (2) operable units (OUs). OU-1 contains a mixture of radiologically-contaminated soils, municipal refuse and construction/demolition debris. OU-2 includes several sanitary landfill cells containing municipal refuse and construction/demolition debris.

After conducting extensive investigations, holding numerous public forums, and responding in detail to public comments, EPA signed a Record of Decision (ROD) for OU-1 in May 2008. This decision document outlined the selected remedy, which included the placement of an engineered cover system over the radiologically-contaminated areas, long-term groundwater monitoring, and the adoption of institutional controls to restrict access.

After the ROD was signed, EPA continued to receive public comments about the selected remedy. In response to those comments, EPA tasked the potentially-responsible parties (PRPs) to conduct a Supplemental Feasibility Study (SFS) for OU-1 that further evaluated the ROD-selected remedy, as well as full-scale excavation of the radiologically-contaminated landfill material and disposal either at a

permitted off-site facility or in a new, on-site engineered disposal cell.

The SFS Work Plan was released to the public in June 2010 and the PRPs proceeded to perform the SFS. After reviewing several draft versions of the SFS Report, EPA approved and released it to the public in December 2011. The estimated costs defined for each alternative in the SFS Report exceeded the region's fiscal authority, which triggered a formal review and evaluation by EPA's National Remedy Review Board (NRRB). Between January 2012 and the present time, the NRRB has weighed in with numerous draft comments and recommendations on the SFS Report. The NRRB recommended that EPA, Region 7: evaluate additional groundwater sampling to refresh the data, conduct a more detailed study of the partial excavation alternative, and conduct a more detailed analysis of potential treatment technologies for the radiologically-contaminated landfill material. EPA, Region 7, then tasked the PRPs to conduct some of this work as an amendment to its original Consent Order.

In response to more general NRRB recommendations, EPA Region 7 also decided to update gamma scans of the surface of OU-1 and conduct vertical gamma scans of monitoring wells at the site. EPA Region 7 will perform the gamma scans.

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The PRPs will conduct the work under EPA's oversight, with the following proposed 2012/2013 schedule:

July 2012 – Groundwater sampling (PRPs to conduct, EPA & MDNR will take split samples);

August 2012– Gamma scan evaluation to further refine distribution of radiologically-impacted wastes (EPA staff to conduct);

Summer 2012–2013 – Additional studies to address the NRRB draft comments. (PRPs to perform).

EPA will host a public availability session near the end of 2012 in Bridgeton to: convey updated data results, discuss the scope of the PRP additional studies, and take questions about the next steps in the ROD-Amendment process.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The SFS Report is available online at:
http://www.epa.gov/region7/cleanup/npl_files/west_lake_landfill/index.htm

The administrative record, and other site-related documents for the Westlake Landfill Superfund Site are available for review at the following locations:

The Bridgeton Trails Branch of the St. Louis County Library
3455 McKelvey Road
Bridgeton, Missouri
(314) 291-7570

AND

EPA Region 7 Records Center
901 North 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas
1-800-223-0425

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

EPA is committed to keeping the community informed about site activities throughout the SFS process.

If you have questions about this Fact Sheet, or need additional information about the Westlake Landfill Superfund Site, please contact:

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